MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Mysore Paper Mills Limited (MPM) has been making marginal profits since 1989 except in 1993 when it incurred loss. The company has been provided some fiscal concessions and loans to overcome its difficulties and it is now running profitably.

(b) Import of newsprint has been decanalised w.e.f. 1.4.1992. The ratio of indigenous and imported newsprint which was 65:35 before decanalisation, has been now changed to 2:1 in respect of newspapers whose annual entitlement is more than 200 MT are permitted to import newsprint on the basis of Annual Entitlement Certificates issues by the RNI.

(c) Indian Newsprint Manufacturers Association and some Newsprint Mills in the Public Sector have reported that the newspaper units are not lifting the required quantity of newsprint from the indigenous mills and resorting the excess imports which has resulted in accumulation of unsold stocks with the indigenous mills causing financial hardships to them.

(d) Government keeps a constant watch on the problems faced by the indigenous newsprint industry. Suitable measures are taken by the Government as and when required to help the indigenous industry.

Implementation of Government O.M.

4153. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government O.M. Number 1 GL—001/83/23/1/83 BPE/MM dated 20th April, 1983 has been cancelled/withdrawn/superceded; and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) which Government O.M. has superseded, cancelled or withdrawn the same and the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether the same is being implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (b) The Government O.M. No. GL—001/83/23/1/83—BPE/MM dated 20.4.83 and others on price and purchase preference were superseded by an O.M. No. DPE/13 (19)/91-Fin. dated 13.1.92 allowing only purchase preference, instead of price and purchase preference as allowed earlier to Central Government enterprises while dealing with other Central Government enterprises and with Central Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Clearance required for investments

4154. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in The Pioneer dated 1st August, 1994 under the caption "Officialdom has hit investment";

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that the clearances are required from numerous Ministries; and

(d) in what manner Government propose to reduce the need for clearances from numerous Ministries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government of India have alredy initiated various steps to eliminate delays in processing proposals for setting up of an industry.

The need for efficient and effective communication and coordination between Central Ministries and States has been emphasised in several forums. Recently, a Committee to suggest simplification of procedures of various approvals of industrial projects at the State level was set up under the Chairmanship of Chief

Secretary, Government of Gujarat, with members of selected State Governments, Department of Industrial Development, Government of India and National Informatic Centre. The Committee has recently submitted its report to the Government.

Fall in sale of watches

4155. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sale of mechanical, digital and quartz watches manufactured in the country, has fallen by 18 per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the country is at present flooded with counterfeit watches which are being smuggled into the country from abroad;

(d) if so, the steps being taken to check their smuggling into the country;

(e) whether it is also a fact that multinationals who are likely to set up their assembly plants in the country will be importing petty items like dials, cases, straps etc. from abroad; and

(f) if so, the steps being contemplated to ensure that the assembly units use locally made items instead of importing them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Information relating to sale of mechanical, digital and quartz watches in the country is not centrally maintained.

(c) and (d) There are reports that smuggling of watches and watch parts is taking place. However, there is no confirmation that counterfeit brands of watches are being smuggled in from abroad. All the field formations of Directorate of Revenue Intelligence are alert to curb such smuggling activities.

(e) No proposal from any multinational company for setting up assembly plants in the country has been received so far.

(f) Does not arise.

Small Scale Units in Electrononic Industry

4156. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of employment and production of the small scale units in the country, State-wise, particularly in the electronic industry during each of the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that according to the latest study report, though the number of small scale units still continues to be high, their role and effectiveness is rapidly reducing; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what facilities/concessions are being provided by Government to enable the small scale sector to play its role effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The percentage of employment and production of the small scale units, engaged in the production of electronic goods, in the country during the years 1990, 1992 and 1993 for which informaiton is available are given below:—

Year	Percentage share of small scale electronic industy in the country(%)	
	Production	Employment
1990	30.4	42.1
1992	28.3	42.2
1993	29.7	42.1

The State-wise details of the share of small scale electronic industries in the country is available for the year 1993 and is given in Statement *(see below)*.

(b) No Sir. The role of the electronic indsutries in the small scale sector has not